

GOV. TAFT IN WASHINGTON.

HE WILL BECOME SECRETARY OF WAR ON FEB. 1.

Says the Philippines Were Never in a More Peaceful Condition—The Insurrectionary War Just Over. When Over and the Criminals, About 2,500, Are in Jail.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—William H. Taft, who will succeed Elihu Root as Secretary of War on Feb. 1, arrived in Washington shortly after 5 o'clock this afternoon. He was met at the railroad station by Secretary Root, Lieut.-Gen. Chaffee, and a number of officials and army officers. A troop of cavalry from Fort Myer was drawn up in front of the station, and when Gov. Taft and Secretary Root came out to enter the Secretary of War's carriage, a huge contingent of the cavalry fell in behind the carriage and escorted the party to the War Department. It was thought that Gov. Taft would go directly to the President, but he accompanied Secretary Root to the War Office and there spent some time in talking over his journey and the conditions of the Philippines with the Secretary. Gen. Chaffee was present at the conversation and later accompanied Gov. Taft to the Arlington Hotel, where he will live this winter.

Gov. Taft is looking remarkably well and weighs thirty pounds more than he did when he returned to the Philippines two years ago after a severe illness. There were some fears that his health, but he says he is now in fine condition, and that the trying tropical climate of the Philippines has had no serious effect on his health, as is apparent from his appearance. He is particularly pleased with the condition of affairs in the Philippines and sees a bright future ahead for the islands. Speaking of the Philippines to a Star reporter, he said:

"First, we had the war and when the military ended the insurrection a period of anarchy followed. The lawless were at their highest power about the time of my return two years ago. We put the constabulary and Philippine Scouts to work, and now there is no anarchy in the islands. It has entirely disappeared. The Philippines were never in a more peaceful condition. As for any possible insurrectionary movement, such a thing is not even thought of. We have won over the insurrectionists, and got all the criminals—about 2,500—in prison, and the people are beginning to feel the benefit of the government of the Philippines. The insurrectionary movement has been completely crushed. The people are beginning to believe what we tell them and are on the road to like the Americans."

Referring to the military forces in the Philippines, Gov. Taft expressed the opinion that their presence was a great strain. There are now about 15,000 troops in the archipelago, and this, in his opinion, is a greater number than actually needed. Looking at the situation from the standpoint of the Philippine Commission and not prospective Secretary of War, he said that he thought the military force could be reduced to 10,000 men.

"The Moro problem," said Gov. Taft, "is a difficult one from a military standpoint. I think can be easily solved by firmness and kindness. The present time even Moro goes armed, but I think we may look forward to the time when we may take his arms away from him. He will be less inclined to give trouble."

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"The people are beginning to return to their homes," he said, "and take an interest in agriculture. We must, however, be careful not to let the carabao disease, but the unaccustomed imported cattle from China are difficult to raise."

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There will be a conference to-morrow of the President, Gov. Taft and Secretary Root for the purpose of determining upon the selection of a new member of the Philippine Commission to fill the vacancy caused by Gov. Taft's appointment as Secretary of War. Mr. Wright has been named for Governor of the Philippines and president of the commission, and this leaves a vacancy in the commission, which candidates have been selected among them Judge Winthrop of New York, who is at the head of the Philippine judiciary; Secretary of the Philippine Commission, Collector of Customs Schuster and several prominent persons in this country. The place was offered to William W. Russell, Director of Bureau of American Republics, some weeks ago, but he declined the appointment. It is said that the President and Secretary Root are anxious to have some one who will add to the already high standard of the commission.

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Movements of Naval Vessels.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The destroyers Decatur, Chauncey, Dale, Barry and Bainbridge, under command of Lieut. Lloyd H. Chandler, and conveyed by the training ship Bulwark, arrived at Gibraltar to-day on their way to the Far East.

The cruiser Cleveland has arrived at Hampton Roads, the gunboat El Cano at Chungking, and the gunboat Albatross at New York, the battleship Texas (flagship of Rear Admiral Sands) at Newport News, and the tug Penitence at Boston. The gunboat Newport has sailed for San Juan for Culebra and Colon, the torpedo boats Talbot and Porter and the tug Standish from Annapolis, Md., Norfolk, and the colliers Sterling and Leonidas from Culebra for Norfolk.

The torpedo boat Bailey was placed in commission in reserve at Norfolk to-day.

To Improve Long Island Harbors.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Representative Baughman (Dem., N. Y.) to-day introduced a bill to improve the waterways on the north side of Long Island, opening into Long Island Sound, by appropriating \$75,000 to be expended in dredging, and the improvement of Mattituck harbor; \$25,000 for Port Jefferson harbor; \$25,000 for Huntington harbor; \$20,000 for a public building at Oyster Bay; \$10,000 for Flushing Bay harbor.

Mr. Baughman also introduced a bill appropriating \$60,000 to complete the breakwater at Sag Harbor and \$10,000 for completing improvement of Brown's Creek, Sayville.

CHANGE OF NAVAL POLICY.

General Board to Determine the Number and Character of New Warships.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Secretary of the Navy Moody, after much consideration, has determined to hereafter abide solely by the advice of the General Board of the Navy as to the number and character of new warships required for the fleet. This is a radical change in the policy of the Navy Department, as it curtails the influence of the Board on Construction, which will in future merely make the plans and determine the cost of vessels recommended by the General Board along the lines laid down by that body.

Mr. Moody's change of policy became known to-day when he laid before the House Committee on Naval Affairs the building programme of the present session of Congress submitted by the General Board. He endorsed this programme, taking the ground that the officers who fight the ships are better qualified to judge of what is needed than any civilian. His new policy is practically that of the British Admiralty, which entrusts to line officers the determination of the number and character of vessels desired, and leaves to its construction department the working out of the detailed plans.

The programme of positions drafted by the General Board and submitted by Mr. Moody. The first is along the lines of the present programme, but with an expenditure of \$34,500,000, the amount appropriated last year for naval increase, which will include not only the cost of building new vessels, but also the cost of armament and equipment. This expenditure is for one battleship of about 16,000 tons displacement, practically the same as the one in the Connecticut and the Washington, which are an improved type of the Connecticut and the Louisiana; the armored cruiser of about 14,000 tons, similar in most respects to the Tennessee and the Washington; four very fast scout cruisers not exceeding 4,000 tons each; three protected cruisers of about 2,500 tons each, and two colliers. Two submarine torpedo boats also are included in the programme, but these are to be paid for out of the appropriation of \$500,000 now available.

The second proposition provides for the expenditure of \$30,000,000, and is similar to the first, with the exception that only two scout cruisers are included. In explaining the recommendation for so many scout ships and protected cruisers, Mr. Moody stated that the General Board believed that cruisers were as necessary to the fleet as battleships.

When the Secretary of the Naval Committee to-day before the Naval Committee to-day Secretary Moody advocated the construction of a naval station in the Philippines which would ultimately cost about \$800,000. He advised an appropriation of \$800,000 to begin the work next year. The station at Guantanamo, Cuba, he said, would, when completed, cost \$12,000,000. He said that the station at Guantanamo would cost \$12,000,000 to begin the work next year. Secretary Moody was interrupted by Representative Alger, who said that the station at Guantanamo would cost \$12,000,000 to begin the work next year.

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD BEHIND.

Battleship Louisiana at Newport News. Further Advanced Than the Connecticut.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Assistant Secretary Darling of the Navy sent to-day to the House a statement showing the cost, up to Sept. 30, 1903, of inspection and construction of the battleship Connecticut at the Brooklyn navy yard and the Louisiana, her twin ship, at the yards of the Newport News. He advised an appropriation of \$800,000 to begin the work next year. The station at Guantanamo, Cuba, he said, would, when completed, cost \$12,000,000. He said that the station at Guantanamo would cost \$12,000,000 to begin the work next year.

The cost of the Connecticut thus far has been \$1,217,948, has been expended on the Louisiana \$1,407,332. On the Louisiana, showing the latter much further advanced than the ship under construction in the Government yard.

HORSE AND CARRIAGE GRAFT.

Knox Reports That He Has Four Carriages. Three Horses and Two Coachmen.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The first response to the inquiry regarding carriage graft was sent to the House to-day by Attorney General Knox. It shows that there are maintained in the Department of Justice, for the exclusive use of the Attorney-General and the Solicitor General, three horses valued at \$150, \$250 and \$200, respectively; two closed carriages, one of which cost \$2,000, and another \$1,500. The other two, costing \$977 and the other \$347; three sets of harness, the aggregate cost of which was \$450, and no automobiles.

The horses, carriages and harnesses, with a number of candidates have been selected among them Judge Winthrop of New York, who is at the head of the Philippine judiciary; Secretary of the Philippine Commission, Collector of Customs Schuster and several prominent persons in this country. The place was offered to William W. Russell, Director of Bureau of American Republics, some weeks ago, but he declined the appointment. It is said that the President and Secretary Root are anxious to have some one who will add to the already high standard of the commission.

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Bills Passed by the Senate.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The Senate to-day passed the following bills: A bill to provide for the Marine Corps in fixing their rank.

Authorizing the purchase of 200,000 nickels at the mint, and the purchase of 200,000 pieces are coined in Philadelphia only.

For the erection of a pedestal for a bronze statue of Longfellow in Washington.

For the erection of monuments at Gettysburg, Vicksburg and other places.

To establish a life saving station at Cape Cod.

For the erection of a statue to the memory of Gen. James Miller at Peterboro, N. H.

NO DELAYS TO CANAL TREATY.

SENATE COMMITTEE WITHDRAWS AMENDMENTS IT ADOPTED.

They Give the United States Greater Control Over the Harbors of Panama and Colon—May Be Taken Up in Another Treaty—Democrats Urges Ratification.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations this morning rescinded its previous action on the matter of amendments to the Panama Canal Treaty and authorized Chairman Cullom to move in the Senate a disagreement to them. These amendments looked to the acquisition by the United States of greater control over the harbors of Colon and Panama.

The action of the committee is probably the result of the strong physical opposition of the Senate to the treaty. The treaty was ratified as soon as possible in order that the canal question be placed on a firm basis before complications arise. The delay which would be caused by the necessity for the adoption by Panama of the proposed amendments is deemed unwelcome. The amendments were taken up in another treaty after the pending convention is ratified.

In the Senate, later in the day, Mr. Morgan (Dem., Ala.) offered the following resolution:

That the Secretary of State is directed to send to the Senate a copy of a despatch or letter dated Jan. 27, 1904, relative to the withdrawal or abandonment of all amendments to the Hay-Varela treaty which the United States has made in connection with the Panama Canal Treaty, and to inform the Senate of the reasons for such action.

The resolution went over until to-morrow. Mr. Morgan also offered a lengthy resolution to the Committee of Public Health and National Quarantine, of which he is chairman, to investigate certain cases regarding the sanitary and health conditions at Panama. The resolution was in effect a quotation from newspaper correspondence speaking in pessimistic terms of the situation at Panama, and predicting pestilence as a result of canal construction. The committee is required to report on the matter to the Senate.

Mr. Simmons (Dem., N. C.) to-day made a speech on the Democratic side in the Senate in favor of the Panama Canal Treaty. He declared that neither article nor caprice had caused the change in sentiment in the Senate. He advised an appropriation of \$800,000 to begin the work next year. The station at Guantanamo, Cuba, he said, would, when completed, cost \$12,000,000. He said that the station at Guantanamo would cost \$12,000,000 to begin the work next year.

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WHITE MAN SUCCEEDS NEGRO.

William B. Martin Appointed Postmaster at Indianapolis, in Place of Mrs. Cox.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The President sent to the Senate to-day the nomination of William B. Martin as postmaster at Indianapolis, Miss., to succeed Mrs. Cox, the negro postmaster, against whom the opposition developed more than a year ago. An official statement was given out at the White House this afternoon that Mrs. Cox had refused to accept a reappointment upon the expiration of her term.

Mr. Martin is a white man and was the bondman and staunch friend of the postmaster during her trouble with the people of Indianapolis.

Mrs. Cox was forced to close her office and send in her resignation, to take effect Jan. 1, 1903, because of the persecution to which she was subjected by a portion of the white population of Indianapolis. She had served three years under President Harrison and later was appointed by President McKinley in 1897. During her term of office her character and standing in the community were excellent and she was informed by the most reputable citizens of the town. Reports of post office inspectors showed that she had given satisfaction at all times in the conduct of her office and that her position and moral standing were of the best.

When Mrs. Cox forwarded her resignation as the result of the physical violence of the white population of Indianapolis, by direction of the President, refused to accept it, and ordered the Indianapolis office closed and all mail addressed to the postmaster sent to Greenville, thirty miles away. Since that time Mrs. Cox has been nominally postmaster, and for a time received the salary of the office. The postmaster depends on the receipts and the office remained closed, her salary soon was withheld. She then decided to reopen the office, and she was asked to resume her duties as postmaster. She declined and Martin was appointed.

ROOSEVELT INVITED TO SHOOT.
National Schuetzenbund Request His Presence at Their Shooting Festival.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—A delegation representing the National Schuetzenbund of the United States of America, consisting of Henry Kroeger, president; Frederick Schill and Henry Behrens, secretaries, called on President Roosevelt to-day to invite him to attend the rifle shooting festival which the organization proposes to hold at Union Hill, N. J., on the 29th and 30th of this month. The President not only to attend, but to fire the first shot in the week's tournament.

But on the 29th the President will probably not be able to accept the invitation.

THE TOWNSEND POISONING.
Coroner and District Attorney Unable to Fasten the Crime on Any One.

ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 27.—A second session of the Coroner's inquest at Ovid to-day failed to solve the mystery connected with the poisoning of C. A. Townsend, a wealthy and leading resident of Townsendville, a village a few miles northwest of this city.

The fact again brought out that the man who was supposed to be responsible for the poisoning had been seen by a physician five times before his death. But who administered the poison is a mystery which may never be solved unless the attorney general, Mr. Hurler of Seneca county, who is working on the case, discovers a new clue.

The principal witness sworn to-day was a Mr. Rogers, a farmer, said to be related to the Townsend family. It had been ascertained that just prior to the death of Mr. Townsend Mr. Rogers had purchased a large quantity of arsenic from a local drug store. It is possible that whoever poisoned Mr. Townsend got it from this source, but Mr. Rogers disclaimed all knowledge of any of it being used.

Friends of Mrs. Townsend are positive that she is above suspicion in the case. They assert that the couple always lived happily together, and that there could have been no motive for her to commit the crime.

HUGH McLAUGHLIN GOES SOUTH.
He Suggests an Oratorical Duel Between Bryan and Cleveland.

Hugh McLaughlin, former leader of the Kings County Democracy, started yesterday on his annual midwinter trip to Florida, accompanied by Mrs. McLaughlin, William C. McLaughlin, his son, and two daughters.

Mr. McLaughlin held a farewell reception at his home, and many friends called. He was accompanied by his son, William C. McLaughlin, and two daughters. He was accompanied by his son, William C. McLaughlin, and two daughters.

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SERVICE PENSION BILL PUT IN.

ADMINISTRATION MEASURE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE.

It Gives \$5 a Month to Veterans 65 Years Old, \$10 When 60 and \$12 When 50—Increases Minimum Pension to \$5 and Pension to Original Widows to \$12.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Representative Cyrus A. Suloway (Rep., N. H.), chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, to-day introduced a service and age pension bill which provides that all soldiers who enlisted in the army or navy of the United States, who served ninety days or more and were honorably discharged and who have reached the age of 65 years, shall be entitled to a pension of \$5 a month. When the soldier is 60 years of age he is to receive \$10 a month, and when 70 years of age \$12 a month.

Mr. Suloway's bill also increases the pensions of those who are now drawing the minimum pension of \$5 per month, under existing laws, to \$8 per month, and further provides that the pensions of soldiers who married the soldier prior to Jan. 1, 1870, shall be increased to \$12 per month. The bill gives relief to the ninety-day men by increasing the minimum from \$5 to \$8, and by further giving them the benefit of an age pension. The men who rendered the country long service are also recognized by allowing them an additional rate of \$2 per month where they served two years or more.

The "war widows" are cared for by increasing their pensions from \$8 to \$12. Mr. Suloway is evidently of the opinion that the women who married soldiers before or during the war are entitled to more recognition at the hands of the Government than those who became the wives of soldiers long years after the war had closed.

The bill differs from the "Grand Army bill," which is now pending in the Senate, in that it recognizes the age of the beneficiaries and recognizes the men who rendered the country long service.

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Golden State Limited.

Leaves Chicago and Kansas City, daily, December 20 to April 14 for Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco, Southern route—by way of El Paso and the Southern Pacific—throughland where winter is unknown.

Fast as the fleet. Floor to the finest. Tickets on the Southern Pacific only have this office and at offices of all connecting lines.

H. S. Ray, G. E. A. P. Agent, Uptown Office, 5th Avenue and 35th Street, New York City.

is purchasable, either directly or indirectly. The pension roll contains the names of the beneficiaries. Those who have passed unscathed through our country's conflict esteem it a privilege to be permitted to share in the bounty of the Government. The Government's bounty, but to assist in increasing the funds available for that bounty.

A gold badge of the order was presented to the Rev. John P. Chidwick, who was the chaplain of the Maine when she was blown up in the harbor of Havana. The presentation was under the direction of the Gloucester Naval Command, No. 17, Spanish War Veterans, and was a testimonial of the high esteem in which the Rev. Mr. Chidwick is held by the members of that society, whose chaplain he is. The medal was presented by the Rev. Joseph M. Moran. It bears this inscription: "Presented to the Rev. John P. Chidwick, past national chaplain, Order of Spanish War Veterans, by his comrades, the Gloucester Naval Command, No. 17, Corps of the State of New York, S. W. V., Jan. 27, 1904."

The speakers besides Capt. Andrews were George Eugene Griffin, who spoke on "The City of New York," Assistant Corporation Counsel James D. Bell of Brooklyn, who spoke on "The City of New York," and Chaplain W. H. I. Reaney, U. S. N., on "The Navy."

ACCUSES "BEDFORD GANG."
Joseph Cabbie, Jr., Says Four of Them Robbed Him in the Early Morning.

The police of the Gates avenue station are investigating the story of Joseph Cabbie, Jr., of 606 Madison street, Brooklyn, who says that he was assaulted and robbed early yesterday morning by four members of the "Bedford Gang" at Jefferson and Lewis avenues. He has furnished them with the name of a young man who, he says, was the leader of the gang.

Cabbie was accidentally stabbed with an eraser some time ago. He is a member of a crew that do daily.